

PUBLICATIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ON PUBLIC HEALTH

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EUROPEAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY (EFSA)

Testai E, Buratti FM, Funari E, *et al.* **Review and analysis of occurrence, exposure and toxicity of cyanobacteria toxins in food.** *EFSA Supporting Publication* 2016;13(2):EN-998. 309 p. doi: 10.2903/sp.efsa.2016.EN-998 This report presents the extensive literature search conducted on: 1) the occurrence of different cyanotoxins in food matrices; 2) the analytical methods for their detection; 3) their toxicological profile; 4) the environmental factors affecting toxicity of cyanobacterial population and 5) the combined effects of mixtures of cyanotoxins and other chemicals. It also includes a review of guidelines values or health-alert levels for cyanotoxins in food (or drinking water) adopted world-wide. The methodological aspects and the queries used in the extensive literature search, the collection and screening of retrieved papers and the inventory are briefly described in the report; all details are available in 3 supplementary appendices to this report.

Overview of existing methodologies for the estimation of non-dietary exposure to chemicals from the use of consumer products and via the environment. *EFSA Journal* 2016;14(7):4525 This report compiles and summarizes relevant information on non-dietary exposure derived from the use of consumer products and via the environment (dust, air, etc.). Leading institutions and organisations on non-dietary exposure are presented, in particular, the European Chemical Agency (ECHA). The report also provides an overview of the registration process of chemical substances that should be followed under Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), including the use descriptor system. This system provides an appropriate level of information to allow understanding what is done with the substance and to ensure a meaningful and complete exposure assessment of the uses. Special attention is given to algorithms and toolboxes described by ECHA guidance that are used to estimate the external dose of one particular chemical through different routes and sources of exposure. These algorithms allow the estimation of non-dietary exposure following a stepwise or tiered approach, from deriving a reasonable 'worst-case' scenario to more refined exposure estimations when needed.

Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (Cefas). **Report of the Joint FSA/EFSA Workshop on foodborne viruses.** *EFSA supporting publication* 2016;13(10):EN-1103. 47 p. doi: 10.2903/

sp.efsa.2016.EN-1103 This report describes the outcome of a workshop held jointly by the Food Standards Agency UK and the European Food Safety Authority on foodborne viruses. The workshop gathered together academics, clinicians, veterinarians, food industry specialists and regulators with established expertise in epidemiology, detection and control of norovirus, hepatitis A virus and hepatitis E virus in foodstuffs. The primary objective of the workshop was to identify priority areas for future research funding in order to maximise efficiency and to benefit from synergies provided by interdisciplinary collaborations. This report describes the methodology employed to rank and prioritise research needs and the main workshop conclusions. The conclusions identified that the highest priorities were development and validation of methods for assessing hepatitis E virus infectivity, establishment of the relationship between the detection of norovirus in food and public health risk, development of methods for evaluating norovirus and hepatitis A virus infectivity in food samples, standardisation of methods for hepatitis E virus detection in meat and meat products, and determination of the burden of hepatitis E in human populations in Europe.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)

The State of Food and Agriculture 2016 (SOFA): Climate change, agriculture and food security. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2016; 194 p. ISBN 978 92 510 9374 0 The 2016 SOFA report presents evidence on today and tomorrow's impact of climate change on agriculture and food systems. The report assesses the options to make agriculture and food systems resilient to climate change impacts, while minimizing environmental impacts. It shows that making agriculture and food systems sustainable is both economically and technically feasible. However barriers to the adoption of appropriate technologies and management practices will have to be lowered, especially for smallholder farmers and women farmers amongst them. Likewise, an overhaul is needed of agricultural and food policies to shift incentives in favour of investments, worldwide, in sustainable technologies and practices.

Achieving zero hunger: the critical role of investments in social protection and agriculture. Second edition. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Fund for Agriculture-

al Development, World Food Programme 2015; 39 p. Job number: I4951 ISBN 978 92 510 8886 9 This paper provides estimates of investment costs, both public and private, required to eliminate chronic dietary energy deficits, or to achieve zero hunger by 2030. This target is consistent with achieving both Sustainable Development Goal 2, to eliminate hunger by 2030, and Sustainable Development Goal 1, to eradicate poverty. The study adopts a reference baseline scenario, reflecting a “business as usual” situation, to estimate the additional investment requirements. In this scenario, around 650 million people will still suffer from hunger in 2030. It then estimates the investment requirements to eliminate hunger by 2030. Hunger is eliminated through a combination of social protection and targeted pro-poor investments. The first component aims to bring the poor immediately to the US\$1.25/day poverty line income in Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) terms through social protection for a “Transfer to cover the Poverty Gap” (PGT). The second component requires additional investment to accelerate pro-poor growth of incomes and employment, particularly in rural areas, where most of the poor live, than in the “business as usual” scenario. Targeted pro-poor, including rural and agricultural, investments are required to raise the earned incomes of the poor. This would, in turn, reduce the need for social protection to cover the PGT. The analysis is complemented by looking at alternative ways to achieve such pro-poor growth.

UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/ AIDS (UNAIDS)

HIV prevention among adolescent girls and young women. Geneva: UNAIDS 2016; 80 p. The number of new HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa remains exceptionally high. In 2015, 450,000 new infections occurred among adolescent girls and young women aged 15 to 24 years, which translates into approximately 8,600 new infections per week. Preventing new infections among adolescent girls and young women requires a combination of approaches that also reach out to men and adolescent boys. While there is guidance on adolescents and youth, including girls and young women, there is no consolidated guidance to specifically support countries in developing effective HIV prevention programme packages for reducing HIV incidence among adolescent girls and young women in high incidence settings. This report primarily is for policymakers, planners and implementers of HIV prevention programmes across multiple sectors, including organizations led by young people. The document also is useful for experts in wider health and social sector programmes, including health workers and teaching staff, or any other professionals who can integrate dimensions of HIV prevention into their area of work.

HPV, HIV and cervical cancer: leveraging synergies to save women’s lives. Geneva: UNAIDS 2016;

37 p. This report presents recent scientific evidence about the links between HIV, HPV and cervical cancer, and it supplies relevant epidemiological, screening, vaccination and innovation data. Ultimately, its goal is to (a) promote synergies between HIV and cervical cancer prevention programmes; (b) make the case for integrating cervical cancer prevention into existing HIV treatment and prevention programmes; (c) explain the opportunities for women’s health that exist in coordinating HIV and cervical cancer prevention; and (d) advance prevention and treatment literacy among affected populations.

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)

Akenji L, Chen H. **A framework for shaping sustainable lifestyles: determinants and strategies.** Nairobi: United Nations Environment Programme. 2016, 52 p. Job number: DTI/1717/PA How we choose to live as a society and as individuals – what houses we choose and build, what food we eat and grow, how we spend our spare time, and what type of transport we use – will have an enormous impact on our planet, affecting everything from how our economies run to the health of our environment. This publication will help policymakers, individuals and other stakeholders understand what a holistic approach to lifestyle means and how different contexts require different lifestyle solutions. This publication does not set out to define what “the” sustainable lifestyle looks like. Instead, it can help guide a range of initiatives that enable lifestyle choices that contribute to sustainability.

Environment, religion and culture in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Nairobi: United Nations Environment Programme. 2016, 72 p. Job number: RSO/2026/NA ISBN: 978 92 807 3591 8 Critical action is needed by the international community to address urgent and increasing environmental degradation, and related challenges of social and economic unsustainability. Religion and culture can significantly address climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem loss, pollution, deforestation, desertification and unsustainable land and water use, and other urgent issues identified in a shared vision by all nations in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Through integrating environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda, religious and cultural communities can also promote strong, inclusive, green, sustainable and transformative economies, based on circularity, sharing and collaboration, and alternative measures of growth and wellbeing. They can be instrumental in educating for more sustainable lifestyles and behaviours to achieve sustainable consumption and production, and in considering the impact of their actions on others. They can significantly contribute to ending extreme poverty, they can promote innovative nature-based solutions, respect for traditional knowledge and cultural diversity, exercise environmental stewardship and duty of care, build an

ethic of global and local citizenship, promote good governance, tolerance, and reconciliation, and build safe, inclusive and peaceful societies.

Andersson K, Rosemarin A, Lamizana B, *et al.* **Sanitation, wastewater management and sustainability: from waste disposal to resource recovery.** Nairobi and Stockholm: United Nations Environment Programme and Stockholm Environment Institute. 2016, 155 p. ISBN: 978 92 807 3488 1 This book distils some of the latest thinking and experiences on how to make sanitation and wastewater management more sustainable, and on how they can contribute to broader societal sustainability. In particular, it focuses on the idea of sanitation and wastewater management as resource management functions: as ways of keeping valuable resources available for productive uses that support human wellbeing and broader sustainability.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

Fiscal policies for diet and the prevention of noncommunicable diseases. Geneva: World Health Organization. 2016, 36 p. ISBN 978 92 415 112 The Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases 2013-2020 proposes that “as appropriate to national context, countries consider the use of economic tools that are justified by evidence, and may include taxes and subsidies, to improve access to healthy dietary choices and create incentives for behaviours associated with improved health outcomes and discourage the consumption of less healthy options”. The Comprehensive Implementation Plan on Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition 2012 also considers that “trade measures, taxes and subsidies are an important means of guaranteeing access and enabling healthy dietary choices”. To address the increasing number of requests from Member States for guidance on how to design fiscal policies on diet, WHO convened a technical meeting of global experts in fiscal policies on 5-6 May 2015 in Geneva. The main objectives of the meeting were to review evidence and existing guidance, discuss country case studies and provide considerations with regards to the scope, design and implementation of effective fiscal policies on diet. The meeting consisted of presentations and discussions during plenary and

in working groups on the evidence, country experiences and technical aspects of policy design and implementation. It was concluded that there is reasonable and increasing evidence that appropriately designed taxes on sugar sweetened beverages would result in proportional reductions in consumption, especially if aimed at raising the retail price by 20% or more. There is similar strong evidence that subsidies for fresh fruits and vegetables that reduce prices by 10–30% are effective in increasing fruit and vegetable consumption.

Ambient air pollution: a global assessment of exposure and burden of disease. Geneva: World Health Organization. 2016, 121 p. ISBN 978 92 415 1135 3 This report presents a summary of methods and results of the latest WHO global assessment of ambient air pollution exposure and the resulting burden of disease. Air pollution has become a growing concern in the past few years, with an increasing number of acute air pollution episodes in many cities worldwide. As a result, data on air quality is becoming increasingly available and the science underlying the related health impacts is also evolving rapidly.

Atlas of eHealth country profiles: the use of eHealth in support of universal health coverage. Based on the findings of the third global survey on eHealth 2015. Geneva: World Health Organization. 2016, 390 p. Sw.fr. 40.00/US \$ 48.00 Order number: 19303280 ISBN 978 92 415 6521 9 The third global survey on eHealth conducted by the WHO Global Observatory for eHealth (GOe) has a special focus - the use of eHealth in support of universal health coverage. eHealth plays a vital role in promoting universal health coverage in a variety of ways. For instance, it helps provide services to remote populations and underserved communities through telehealth or mHealth. It facilitates the training of the health workforce through the use of eLearning, and makes education more widely accessible especially for those who are isolated. It enhances diagnosis and treatment by providing accurate and timely patient information through electronic health records. And through the strategic use of ICT, it improves the operations and financial efficiency of health care systems. This Atlas presents data collected on 125 WHO Member States and represents the most current information on the use of eHealth in these countries.